

prickers Flint & match for the Carriage Guns, & also send up some wampum there being but little remaining at the Camp. Letter Bk. II.
I have given Orders for raising a Company of 30 Rangers to be composed of People conversant with the woods & Back Country to be employed as Scouts & parties of Intelligence & as Guides to any Detachments from the other Troops whom I might think proper to send abroad. M^r Cox applied to me for a Commission referring me to you for a Character but many Circumstances lead me to think he is very unworthy of your Countenance or favour. M^r Burney did not Choose to exercise his Trade for 2/6 or 3/ a Day & of his Fitness or Capacity for an Abassador I have very little reason to be satisfied. In my way thro Belhaven I advanced Col^o Stevens 98 Pistoles to be divided among the Officers who are gone a Recruiting. The South Carolina Company have not a Single Blankett or Matchcoat among them but expect & hope to be supplied by the Gov^r of Virginia from an Opinion that you have already made the New York Companies a Present of that kind. I told them that I imagined that if the New York Companies had been supplied since their Arrival in Virginia they were by the Governt. made Debtors for the same & that payment would be expected from their respective Officers. You will be pleased to inform me if that be the Case & if the others have been supplied at free Cost I think as these stand in equal need you will incline to make them the like present. Since the Treaty was held with some of the Six Nations at Wills Creek a party of those People being ignorant what Agreement or Treaties those warriors of their nations at Wills Creek had made & before the Return of them home marched off to attack the Catawba Nation upon this Intelligence I sent off a Messenger to the Catawbas to advise them what Enemies they may expect to be attacked by & to what Cause such a proceeding of the Six Nation Party is owing lest they should have deemed this Attack on them to be a Breach of Faith after such a Treaty had been held at Wills Creek & I hope the Messenger will not find any Difficulty in prevailing with them notwithstanding this Affair to be present at the Treaty to be held next April at Winchester. I have this moment received a Letter from Colonel Innes acquainting me that He had received Intelligence by an Indian, of the Arrival of 1100 French & 70 Adirondacks at Fort De Quisne & that 400 French & 200 Canuagas & Ottoways were at the Head of Ohio ready to come down that as soon as the Adirondacks came to the Fort the French Commandant sent them in 3 Divisions against the English Back Inhabitants but whether against the Inhabitants of Virginia or this Province the Indian could not learn the same Indian informed him also that 300 French Families have

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